

WILFORD WILSON'S TESTIMONY BEFORE  
THE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE.

[To the Western Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, July 30.—The seal of secrecy having been removed from the concluding portion of the testimony of ex-Sen.

Question by Plaisted—Do you not believe, and did you not at the time believe, that this explanation of General Porter's of the "Syph" dispatch was intended to deter you from doing your duty in the prosecution of General Babcock?

Answer—Most undoubtedly I did and do.

### OBJECTIONS TO THE SUNDRY CIVIL APPROPRIATION BILL.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The following is the message which was sent to the House by the President, to-day, giving his objections to the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill:

The act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, is so defective in what it does, and so defective in what it omits, that its approval without at the same time pointing out what seems to me to be its defects. It makes a but inadequate provision for the service, at least, and in some instances fails to make any provision at all. It is so defective in its details, that the reduction in ordinary annual appropriations for revenue-cutter service to the prejudice of the signals revenue. The same may be said of the signal service, as also the failure to provide for the necessary expenses of the United States signal offices by new legislation, while the sum of \$18,000 only is appropriated for repairs of different navy yards and stations and preservation of the same, the ordinary and customary appropriations for the same being \$1,000,000 in the last fiscal year. A similar reduction is made in expenses for armories and arsenals. The provision for ordinary judicial expenses is much less than the estimated amount for that important service. The reduction of the first fiscal year and certain demands of the current year. The provision for expenses of surveys of public lands is less than one-half the usual appropriation for that service, and the reduction of the first fiscal year demands. The reduction in the expenditures for light-houses, beacons and fog-horn stations is also made in similar proportion. Of the class for which no appropriation is made, among the most important, the expenses of the District of Columbia, the expenses of the District of Columbia in behalf of the United States, as appropriated in former years, and judgments of the Court of Claims. The failure to make a reasonable contraction of the expenses of the District of Columbia is an apparent dereliction on the part of the United States and rank injustice to the people here who bear the burdens, while to refuse or neglect to provide for the payment of judgments against the Government is an injustice to the people there. Of a different character, but as prejudicial to the Treasury, is the omission to make provision to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to have reliable archives and records of accounts, and to have a full and complete information furnished therefrom for the use of the Government. Finally, without further specification of detail, it may be said that the act, which in its title purports to make provision for the service, is so defective in its details, that it unhealthily appropriates an amount of not more than 60 per cent. of its ordinary demands. The legislative department establishes and defines the service, and devolves upon the executive department the duty of executing it. It is not only a useful estimate of the expenses of such service. Congress properly exacts implicit obedience to requirements of law in the administration of the public service, and rigid compliance with the requirements of law is admitted that a corresponding responsibility and obligation rests upon it to make adequate appropriations to render possible such execution. Any thing short of an ample provision is a species of injustice to the public service, and a detriment to public interests, and is a positive injustice to those charged with its execution. To appropriate and to execute are corresponding obligations, and the former is as necessary a measure of efficiency of execution. In this eighth month of the present session of Congress, nearly one month of the fiscal year to appropriate and to execute is a species of injustice. I do not feel warranted in vetoing an absolutely necessary appropriation bill, but in signing it I deem it a duty to show where the responsibility belongs for whatever embarrasments may arise in the execution of the trust committed to me.

P. S. GIANT.

On Friday last there died at Friendship, Alleghany County, N. Y., Sidney Riggon, in the 84th year of his age. He is a person who had a peculiar history, and one not without interest to Pittsburgers. He was born near Piney Fork, Pennsylvania, and reached maturity near the place of his birth. When about 25 years old he entered the ministry in the Baptist Church, and was for some time pastor of the First Baptist Church, corner of Third and Gratiot Streets. Becoming dissatisfied with the faith, he, with Alexander Campbell and a Mr. Church, of this city, formed the "Campbellite" or "Christian" church, which at one time had a considerable number of adherents in this section of the country. Some time after he went to Ohio and organized a congregation according to the new faith. While there he met Elder Parley Pratt, of the Mormon Church, in debate, and becoming worsted joined the Mormons and took his congregation with him. They went to Courtland, Ohio, where a Mormon congregation was organized. From that they were forced to go to Western Missouri, and finally by persecutions were driven to Nauvoo. There Mr. Riggon stayed until within six or seven months of Joe Smith's death, when, becoming dissatisfied with polygamy, he returned to Pittsburg. Hearing of Smith's death, and that he was appointed his successor, Mr. Riggon returned to Nauvoo. On the day appointed for choosing Smith's successor, Mr. Riggon told the congregation that if he was elected he would not only prohibit polygamy, but expel every one who practiced it. He then asked the audience if they desired to have him for President that each man hold up his right hand. Not a hand was raised. Brigham Young then told the audience that he was Smith's successor, and if elected would carry out his ideas. He was unanimously elected. Mr. Riggon again returned to Pittsburg, and tried to establish a church. Not succeeding, he moved to the Genesee Valley, New York, and has there remained up to the time of his death, a period of about 30 years. After abandoning his religious ventures he devoted himself to the study of geology, and supported himself in a great measure by lecturing upon that science. He is said to have been much respected in his community as a law-abiding, conscientious citizen.—Pittsburg Post.

**The President's Message to the Senate  
and Letter to Gov. Chamberlain.**

WASHINGTON, August 1.—The following message was received by the Senate from the President to-day:

To the Senate of the United States: In response to a resolution of the Senate, July 28, calling upon the President to communicate to the Senate, if in his opinion not incompatible with the public interest, any information in regard to the statements of American citizens at Hamburg, S. C., have the honor to submit the following in closure.

[Here follow a number of papers relative to the Hamburg massacre.]

The President then said: "These assurances are the only information in my possession touching the late disgraceful and brutal slaughter of unoffending men at the town of Hamburg, La. My letter to Governor Chamberlain containing the substance of my report is the subject. As allusion is made in the letter to the condition of other States, and particularly Louisiana and Mississippi, I have added to the inclosure a statement of the reports regarding the latter condition of a portion of the people of the latter State. In regard to Louisiana affairs, murders and massacres of innocent men for opinions and religious beliefs have been reported of recent date and too frequent occurrence to require recapitulation or testimony here. All are familiar with their horrible details, the only wonder being that they have not justified the popular indignation. But recently a committee of the Senate of the United States visited the State of Mississippi to take testimony upon the subject of frauds and violence in elections. Their report has not yet been made public, but I am sure that they will, with a feeling of confidence that it will sustain all that I have stated in relation to fraud and violence in the State of Mississippi."

(Signed) R. M. GRANT,  
Executive Mansion, July 31, 1876.

The following is the President's letter to Gov. Chamberlain, referred to above:

EX-107. Chamberlain, received at New York, July 28, 1856. Dear Sir, I am in receipt of your letter of the 25th July, and the inclosures enumerated therein, giving an account of the late barbarous massacre of innocent men at the town of Hamburg, South Carolina. I am so much grieved by your exposure of the enormities of your countrymen to the citizens, to secure to all their civil rights, including the right to vote according to the dictates of their own consciences, and in the exercise of which I have no doubt you will give all needful aid, when properly called on to do so, to enable you to insure this inalienable right, I fully concur in. The scene at Hamburg, a cruel, cowardly, ranting, and avaricious local, for it is such, is not only a repetition of the course that has been pursued in other Southern States within the last few days, notably in Mississippi and Louisiana. The Government, by its policy of non-interference through fraud and violence, such as scarcely would be accredited to savages, much less to a civilized and Christian people. How long these things are to continue, or what is to be the final result, I cannot say. I am sure, however, I know, but I have an abiding faith that the remedy will come, and come speedily, and I earnestly hope that it will come peacefully. There has not been time to send you a part of the "Commons' Journal" of South Carolina, in which for one State that is not fully accorded to all ours, unless it may be the right to kill negroes and Republicans without fear of punishment and without any State interposition. The concession seemed to be a privilege claimed by a few States. I repeat again that I fully agree with you as to the measure of your duties. Go on; and let every Governor, where the same dangers threaten the rights of his State, be as prompt in the conscientious discharge of his duties, to the humblest as well as to the proudest citizen, and I will give every aid for which I am enabled to do so by constitutional power. The Government that can give protection to life, property, and all guaranteed civil rights in this country, and the greatest is an untrammelled ballot to the citizens, is in so far a failure, and I am sure that the Government of the United States, always within the law and by constitutional means to regain lost privileges and protection. A too long denial of guaranteed rights is leading to a civil war, and the Government must follow upon the innocent as well as the guilty. Expressing hope that better judgment and the co-operation of citizens of the State, over which you have presided so ably, will result in the punishment of all offenders without distinction of race, or color, or previous condition, and without aid from the Federal Government; but that the Government will aid, and I will aid, in the name of the foregoing, to describe myself, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT.  
To Hon. D. H. Chamberlain, Governor of  
South Carolina.

"Little Bob" was a colored newsboy who drifted into the capital of Virginia after the close of the war. He hobbled about the city on crutches, but he was energetic and vivacious, and, in spite of his affliction, managed to dispose of more papers in a day than any three of his competitors. What were his antecedents, how he lost the use of his limbs, perhaps no one gave himself the trouble to inquire. He was born in the first tumults of war. Father perhaps he never had known; to a mother's care he owed little. Misshapen, friendless, ignorant, he survived the perils of childhood, and somehow gathered elements of character which would befit a much higher station than that in which Little Bob lived his few brief years. After he came to Richmond and had won for himself a successful place in his humble sphere, Little Bob looked about for a friend. And him he found in another newsboy, yet more helpless than himself. This was "Delaware," also colored, but older than Bob, and who had lost both legs above the knee. These two curious little folk, the elder not more than twelve, might be found at all hours of the days together, and doubtless shared the same squalid cot at night. "Delaware" sold but few papers, while the younger partner each night had gathered a goodly amount of nickles. But "Delaware" never suffered from that account. Bob paid for his food, and it was from Bob's little store that the nightly lodging was secured. Once in a while the two had a dramatic treat from the highest gallery in the theater, and up the stairs it was by the aid of Bob's crutches that both were able to climb. So the two fared for several years, the ties of friendship, through benefits received and conferred, growing closer and more firm as the time passed by. What were the confidences exchanged—what were the topics of conversation between this deformed Damsel and crippled Pythias of tender years and lowly race? None may say, for of them and their thoughts the world has not time to concern itself. But in its way the talk of these two must not have been altogether base and depraved. For, one day, "Delaware" and Bob were bathing in the neighboring river, and "Delaware," helpless, got beyond his depths. No other help was nigh, and Bob vainly tried to save his partner's life at the risk of his own. Then he took a little store of savings to give "Delaware's" body decent burial

out of the Potter's Field, and by so doing starved himself for a week. Bob never got over the death of his friend. Missing him at his side in their accustomed employment, Bob gave it up after a while and rented a little stand on the thoroughfare—a large deal-box set up on end, and furnished with a scant supply of what only the newsboy and bootblack might buy. He was, after his fashion, loyal to his State and those beloved by her, and when General Lee died, mourned of all Virginia, Bob boarded up the front of his box, and pinned a piece of crape and card upon it, on which was written: "Closed in consequence of the death of Gen. Robert E. Lee." But his business did not prosper, and the town was no longer the same as when he had a friend to share all that belonged to him—of sorrow and of limited joy, and of that little sum which the day's labor had brought. So Bob began his wanderings again, this time into that northern country, of which he but dimly knew and cared. The rest is told in a newspaper item touching a crippled negro boy who was drowned the other day while bathing in the Delaware where it runs by Philadelphia. The paragraph found its way back to Richmond, and the body was identified as that of the crippled boy who went by the name of "Little Bob." Thus these two lowly friends met death after the same manner, and the river whose waters closed over the head of the one bore the same name by which the other was known. This is all. The two boys count for but little in the sum of human life, and their story, perhaps, for less. But to some it may appeal as bearing a moral not altogether without its use and effect in this every-day world, made up in large part of such as these, and in its higher circles, here and there of some less worthy a passing moment's thought.—*New York World.*

The recent funerals of the members of the Garner family, and of Miss Adele Hunter, the unfortunate young lady who was drowned with the Commodore and his wife on the Mohawk, have again developed a peculiarly American trait which is simply disgusting. It was shown rather more conspicuously at Miss Hunter's funeral, because it took place in a popular church. The crowd in attendance had been invited to pass around the coffin, and the great mass of persons who had been attracted merely by curiosity surged in a half disorderly manner up the aisles. Then when the coffin was reached the crowd, which was four-fifths composed of females, behaved so outrageously as to shock those who saw it. The first part of the crowd deliberately (the women were the sole offenders) pounced upon the flowers, and carried them off so ravenously that Dr. Houghton, the Rector, was obliged to mount the platform and publicly request that the floral decorations should be undisturbed. Even after that there were instances where the request was unheeded. This occurrence is very common at large

funerals held in church in New York. At the funeral of A. T. Stewart, the same scene took place, and also at the

At last a practical step has been taken towards emancipating the people from the evils of bad cookery. We know of no department in domestic economy which is so sadly in need of reform, especially in the United States. Mr. William Emerson Baker, of the sewing-machine firm of Grover & Baker, has given to the Governor of Massachusetts and to four other trustees a farm of 50 acres and \$50,000, to form a college of cookery. Cookery is to be taught as an art—which it certainly is—and the pupils are to be instructed in the scientific principles which underlie wholesome cookery. The horrible pies, fried meats, hot bread, and other dyspepsia-generating compounds, together with the inexplicable concoctions produced by the verdant Milesian hand-maid, let us hope, are doomed to disappear; and instead, our kitchens are to be tenanted in future by culinary artists able to prepare, platably and healthfully, the vast variety of food this country affords.—*Scientific American*.

THE other evening Maj. Schiller, residing near Long Reach, not far from Galena, Ill., was informed by a trembling and frightened man, who rushed into his house, that he had just been attacked by a large she-wolf, and barely escaped with the "skin of his teeth." This brought the gallant Major to his feet, and, calling his dog and grasping a dirk-knife, he sallied forth for the wild animal. Soon the dog was up with the wolf and engaged in a furious conflict. The latter got the former on its back and was about ending matters by a throat operation, when the Major interfered and slew the wolf by driving the knife into its neck.

—The late Miss Martineau saved her memory from the injustice of the biographer by having her autobiography put in type and corrected before her death. She also left by her will an injunction against the publication of any of her private letters.

Gen. Alfred J. Pleasanton, U. S. A., recently published a work setting forth the wonderful effects of blue rays of light, both upon the animal and vegetable creation. The author, who is also the discoverer of this wonderful remedial or revivifying process, gives the results of a large number of experiments made by him, and in conclusion says:

"We have, in these instances that I have advanced, manifestations of the remarkable variety of powers as developed in the several cases, all differing from each other in their various disorders, and all having been restored to their normal condition of health and vigor; and in some cases having had that condition increased and intensified. We have had moribund flowering plants not only arrested in their course of decay, but re-invigorated, and their beautiful tints of color greatly improved. We have had branches of a tropical fruit tree, that were exposed to the action of blue light, made highly fruitful, while others of the same tree not similarly exposed bore no fruit, and were feeble and apparently unhealthy.

"We here had an immature infant child, defective in its development at its birth, made perfect in all its parts, and strengthened so as to become a striking instance of infantile health, vigor and beauty. We have had in another infant child an obstinate tumor to be absorbed, and a degree of bodily vigor imparted to it that defied the attacks of all infantile disorders after the tumor had disappeared. We have had poultry of the same variety, hatched on the same days, presenting such different stages of advanced development, after the lapse of the same period of time, to those of poultry reared in the common way, that incredulity must yield to well established fact, and surprise gave way to conviction. We have had the vocal powers of a singing bird that had ceased to sing again excited, and its musical tones again poured forth with greater vigor, richness and beauty than it had ever before displayed, to the delight of all who heard it. The deaf has been made to hear. A mule deaf for several years, by exposure to blue light, has been completely cured; and the stiffness of its limbs with rheumatism has given way to the natural elasticity of a normal condition of health.

"Under the potent influence of the chemical blue ray, lambs that may be used for the food and clothing of man have been so greatly developed in so short a time that we may reasonably hope that the rearing of domestic animals for food may be so largely extended and improved that numbers of mankind who from its cost have seldom used it, may, in the near future, no longer be deprived of this most nourishing article of flesh diet. But the greatest value of this application of blue light will be found in its curative power in human and animal disorders of the body. In the cases above quoted from examples given by the human family, rheumatism (both acute and chronic), neuralgia, with its accompaniment of partial paralysis and various other complications, torpor of the lower extremities nearly amounting to paralysis, have all yielded to the application of these vital forces of light. May we not congratulate mankind on the blessings which this discovery foreshadows? For cerebral diseases, from softening of the brain to confirmed insanity, I would respectfully suggest to the medical profession full trials of the blue and sunlight baths, to be taken by the patients at least once in twenty-four hours, on the naked spine and back of the head. Should they succeed in removing the disorders of the brain, we may soon be relieved of the cost of building additional lunatic asylums, and insanity may be classed as a curable disease. "A distinguished surgeon of Philadelphia, upon being made acquainted with the remarkable vivifying effects of this force in several of the cases mentioned herein, expressed to the author the opinion that the vitalizing influence of these associated colors would probably be found to eradicate scrofula, and the terrible diseases which have produced it, from the human system, a result never yet attained by any medical treatment now known. If this opinion should prove to be well founded, why may we not anticipate that tubercular consumption of the lungs may be arrested in its progress, its abscesses absorbed and dispersed by the purified blood taking up the purulent matter, and either decomposing it or eliminating it through the various excreting channels of the body? In brief, unless the beneficial results of this new discovery are overrated, it is certain to accomplish much good in the future in the way of relieving human suffering, not to speak of the minor advantages of revolutionizing the science of agriculture."

SAN FRANCISCO feels less securely guarded by the three men-of-war which are stationed outside her harbor, than she did before the Fourth. On that glorious day there was a sham battle in the bay in which the vessels participated, the enemy being represented by a paralytic scow which was moved in easy range. From early morn till dewey eve the three vessels bombarded the hapless scow without once hitting it; and the people wonder, gloomily, whether foreign vessels are enough larger than a scow to furnish better targets.

THE body of Bellini, the composer, which was buried in France, is to be brought to Italy in a man-of-war, and placed in a tomb in Catania with imposing ceremonies.